

10. The method as claimed in claim 9, wherein the analyzing is performed by a regulator.
11. The method as claimed in claim 9, wherein adjusting said first image to a desired contrast is performed by a light modulator panel.
12. The method as claimed in claim numeral 9, wherein adjusting said second image for a desired brightness is performed by a light control device.
13. The method as claimed in claim numeral 9, wherein a brightness and a contrast of said desired image are adjusted substantially independently of each other.
14. The method as claimed in claim 9, wherein a contrast of said desired image is independent from a background illumination level.
15. The method of claim 9, wherein
- the first image does not cover a complete range of gray levels producible by an image processing apparatus performing said first adjusting;
 - the second image covers a larger range of gray levels than the first image, while being within said complete range; and
 - whereby, the desired image has the larger range of gray levels with the desired brightness.

1 16. The method of claim 15, wherein the image processing apparatus comprises at least one light
2 modulation panel and wherein the second image comprises image modulation information within
3 the at least one light modulation panel.

1 17. The method of claim 15, wherein the first adjusting results in a brightness level that causes
2 the second image to lie within parameters achieving a maximum dynamic range of at least a
3 portion of the image processing apparatus.

18. The method of claim 17, wherein the second adjusting relates to a second portion of the
image processing apparatus.

1 19. A method for producing an output image in a device comprising a light source and at least
2 one light modulator, the output image resulting from passing light from the light source through
3 the light modulator, the method comprising:

- 4 - analyzing an input image to derive a desired contrast and desired brightness;
- 5 - adjusting the light modulator to a setting which would normally not result in the desired
6 brightness, but would result in the desired contrast;
- 7 - adjusting light from the light source to retain the desired contrast achieved by the light
8 modulator while attaining the desired brightness in the image.

1 20. An image producing device comprising:

- 2 - a video input;
- 3 - at least one light source, having a given normal brightness value;

- at least one light modulator, responsive to the video input for adding image data from the video input to light from the light source;
- means for
 - o analyzing the video input to derive a desired contrast and a desired brightness;
 - o supplying at least one first control signal to cause the light modulator to be adjusted to achieve the desired contrast, but a brightness other than the desired brightness with the light source at the given normal brightness value;
 - o supplying at least one second control signal to cause light source to have a new brightness value in order to achieve the desired brightness in the output image in view of the adjustment of the light modulator; so that the output image has both the desired contrast and the desired brightness.

REMARKS

The present application is filed for the purpose of reasserting claims canceled in the parent and for adding new claims commensurate with the scope of the disclosure. Claims 9-14 are similar to the similarly numbered claims from the parent.

The art rejections from the parent of claim 9-14 are respectfully traversed.

Claim 9 recites first adjusting said first image to a desired contrast and second adjusting said second image for a desired brightness.

The Examiner refers mostly to column 3, line 66 through column 4, line 36 of Ferguson against these recitations. The first portion of the cited text is worded in a vague sort of way that might appear invocative of Applicant's invention, but *only* if read with improper hindsight in light of Applicant's disclosure. Later on the text clarifies that there is no adjustment of contrast.

There is only a maintenance of contrast, with adjustment of brightness – please see col. 4, lines 26-34. If one looks at Figures 10 & 11 of Fergason, especially with reference to column 12, lines 57-65, one sees that the display shade of grey is maintained not adjusted. Only the brightness is adjusted. Accordingly, Fergason fails to teach or suggest claim 9.

Claim 10 depends from claim 9 and further recites that the analyzing is performed by a regulator. Against this recitation the Examiner cites column 3, lines 46-49 of Fergason. The cited text says

... deciphering, the computer control 5 (or some other appropriate control, circuit, etc.) operates the display 3 to produce desired images. If desired, the computer control 5 can operate the display 3 in a sequential manner to produce ...

Applicants are at a loss to understand how this text can possibly teach or suggest any kind of analyzing, much less teach or suggest the use of a regulator. Applicants do not see these words or any equivalent words in the cited text. Clarification is respectfully requested.

Claim 11 depends from claim 9 and recites that adjusting said first image to a desired contrast is performed by a light modulator panel. Against this recitation, the Examiner cites Fergason's column 4, lines 5-9. However the text in question says only that the number of pixels to transmit light is not reduced. Accordingly the first image is only maintained not adjusted. Therefore this portion of column 4 fails to teach or suggest claim 11.

Claim 13 recites that the brightness and contrast of the desired image are adjusted substantially independently of each other. Against this recitation, the Examiner cites Fergason and column 4, lines 26-30. However, this portion of Fergason merely reiterates that the brightness is adjusted "without degrading the contrast ratio." This means that the contrast is not

adjusted. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submits that this portion of Fergason fails to teach or suggest claim 13.

Any other rejections would appear to be moot in view of the above.

The new claims, 15-20, recite additional patentable distinctions over the reference. For instance, claim 15 recites that the second image covers a larger range of gray levels than the first image.

Claims 19 and 20 are narrower claims, somewhat like old claims 1 & 2. One difference is that instead of reciting production of a "too bright" image, the claims recite "a brightness other than the desired brightness." In other words, as explained in the specification, it might be a too dim image as well.

Applicants respectfully submit that they have answered each issue raised by the Examiner and that the application is accordingly in condition for allowance. Allowance is therefore respectfully requested.

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